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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~COUNTRY Bulgaria

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Troop Movements in Bulgaria

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25XTX

EVALUATION [REDACTED]

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

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DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE PREPARED 12 July 1950

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REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. Movements of Bulgarian troops toward the western border, afoot and in motor vehicles, were observed in the area of Vidin (R 23/23/A 00) - Belogradchik (R 23/24/K 96) during the first half of May 1950. Infantry and artillery were seen. It was rumored that these troops were going to be employed in the area of the Bulgarian-Yugoslav border.
2. Railroad cars loaded with guns, apparently including rocket launchers, were seen at an unspecified railroad station near Sofia in mid-May 1950. Local residents said that Soviet troops had arrived in Bulgaria. \*
3. Motorized troops moved through the outskirts of Sofia in mid-May 1950. They could not be identified as Bulgarian or Soviet troops. Sofia residents generally thought the movements to be in connection with Soviet action against Tito.
4. Shipments of troops and material frequently passed through Kuestendil (Y 49/D 72) in May 1950, proceeding toward the border. Officers wearing Soviet uniforms were with the troops. They were the first Soviet officers to be seen in that area.
5. A state of emergency had been in effect in the town of Kuestendil for some time. As all electric power was switched off at 10 p.m., it was not possible to give an account of the troops moving through town at night. Only the roar of motor vehicles moving toward the border was heard.
6. Bulgarian military motor vehicles increasing<sup>ly</sup> appeared in the

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Document No.

No Change in Class.

Declassified

Class. Changed To: TS S C

Auth.: RR 70-2

Date: 23-6-78

By: 35

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Arms and Air Force Committee.

Next Review Date: 2008

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
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Sofia area and in the western border area in late May 1950. Bulgarian military personnel and Soviet officers in uniform were seen in the vehicles. It was the first time that such observations were made.

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\*  Comment. No other sources have reported Soviet combat troops in Bulgaria.

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